

Public Comment by Adeline Wilcox

Census Scientific Advisory Committee Virtual Meeting

November 12, 2020

Line plots show 2020 Census enumeration of LA and MS lagged the rest of the United States. As households in LA and MS did not self-respond at the rate of the nation as a whole, more households in these two states required Nonresponse Followup compared with the rest of the nation. Rates for the United States include LA and MS.

Looking more closely at NRFU rates, we see LA reached a NRFU rate of 38.3 on October 13, 2020, before falling back to 38.2 for the next two days. Inexplicably, after Field Data Capture ended, LA's NRFU rate leapt to 38.6. The Census Bureau stated

Nonresponse follow-up census takers will continue resolving nonresponding addresses through the end of the day on October 15, 2020. We will pull any remaining data from enumerator devices at 11 p.m. local time, giving ample time for final cases to be completed before then.

Louisiana's NRFU rate for October 16, 2020 looks padded.

2010 Census counts show that, among the 50 states, Black people comprised the greatest proportion of the total population in Mississippi and Louisiana. Were these states undercounted in the 2020 Census?

Figure 2. shows Louisiana NRFU appears to have faltered.

Even though the Census Bureau's data documentation states the rate of Housing Unit enumeration "will always increase", rates published on the Census Bureau's website show decreases.

Selected NRFU Rates		
	10/15/2020	10/16/2020
U.S. Total	33.0	32.9
CO	30.0	29.9
MO	34.1	34.0
NY	35.8	35.7
SD	32.5	34.4
VT	39.5	39.4

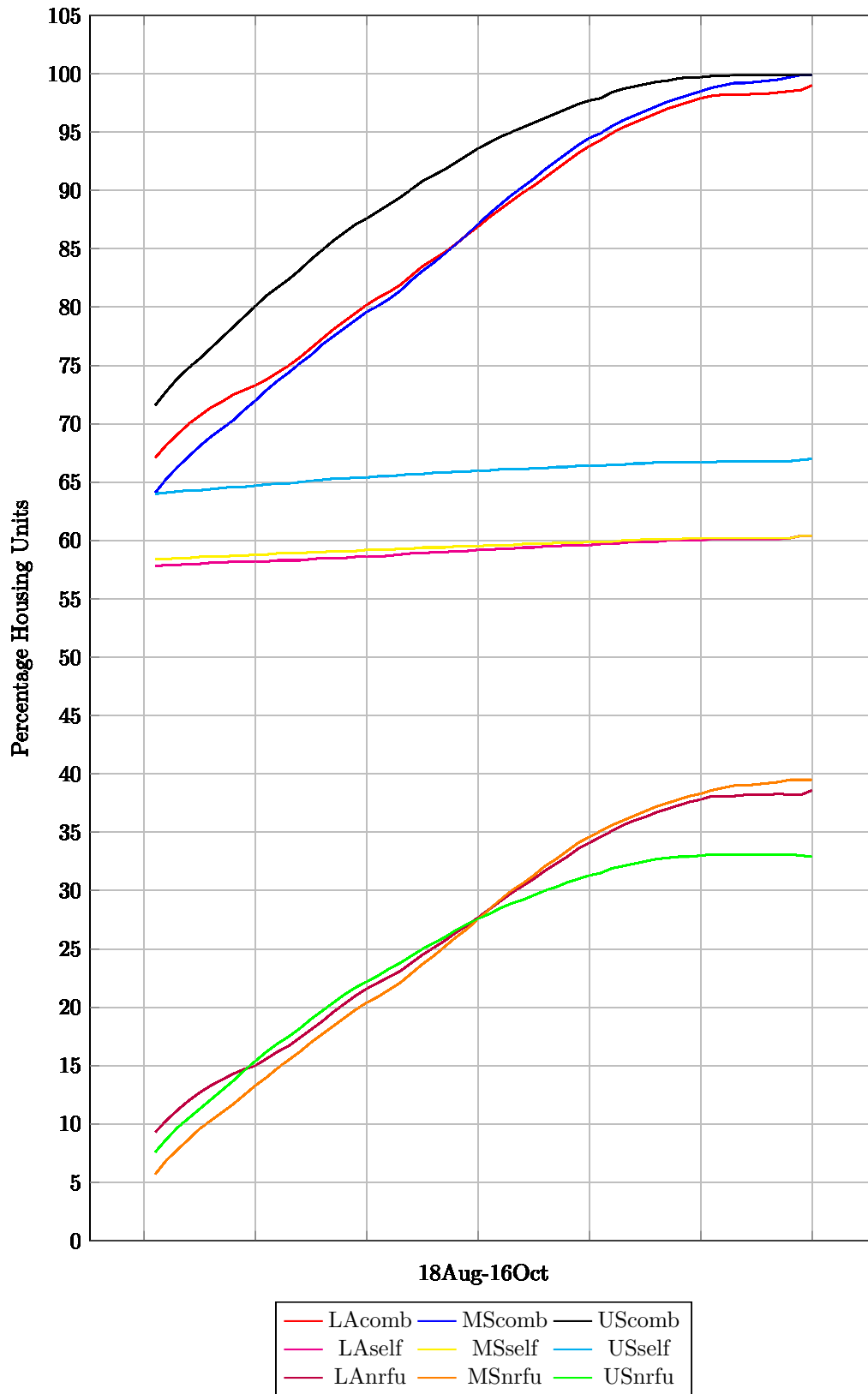


Figure 1: Self-response, Nonresponse follow-up and Total Enumeration Rates

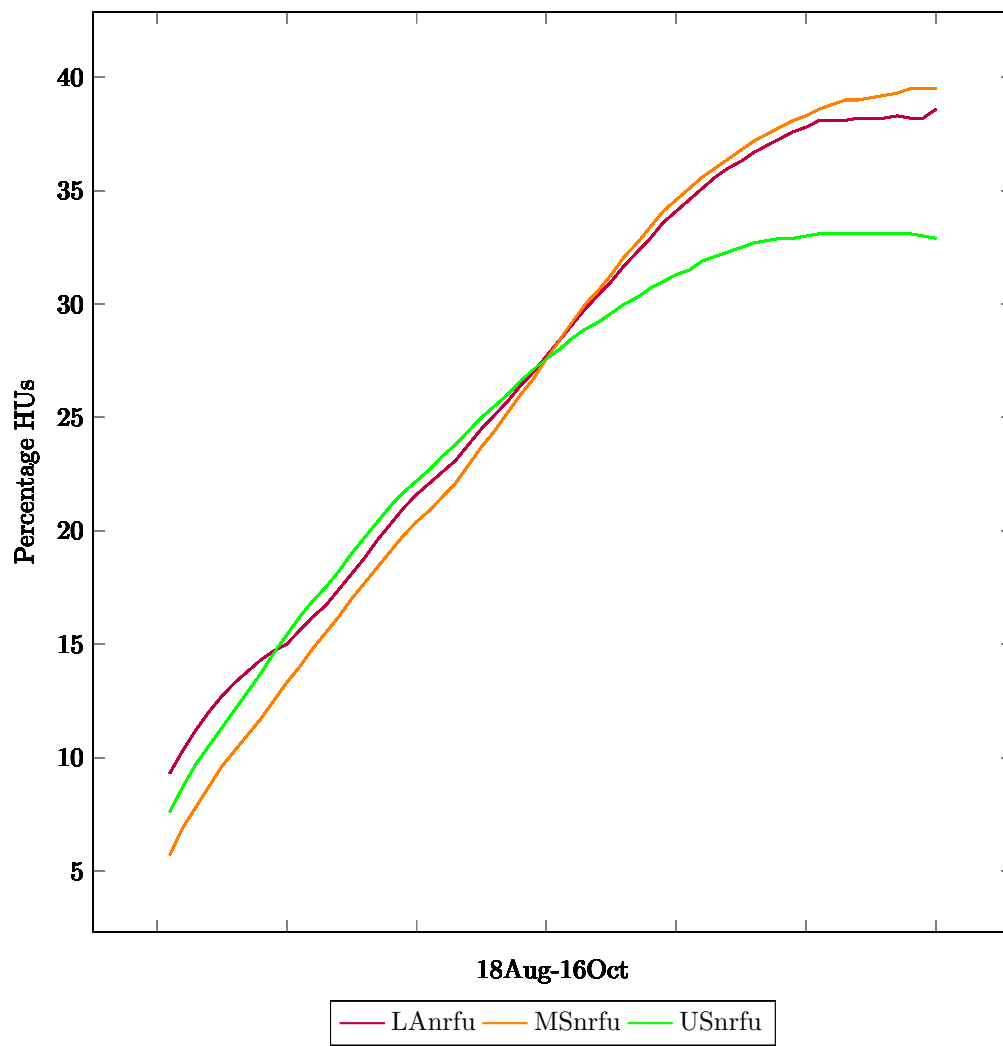


Figure 2: Nonresponse Rates by Date

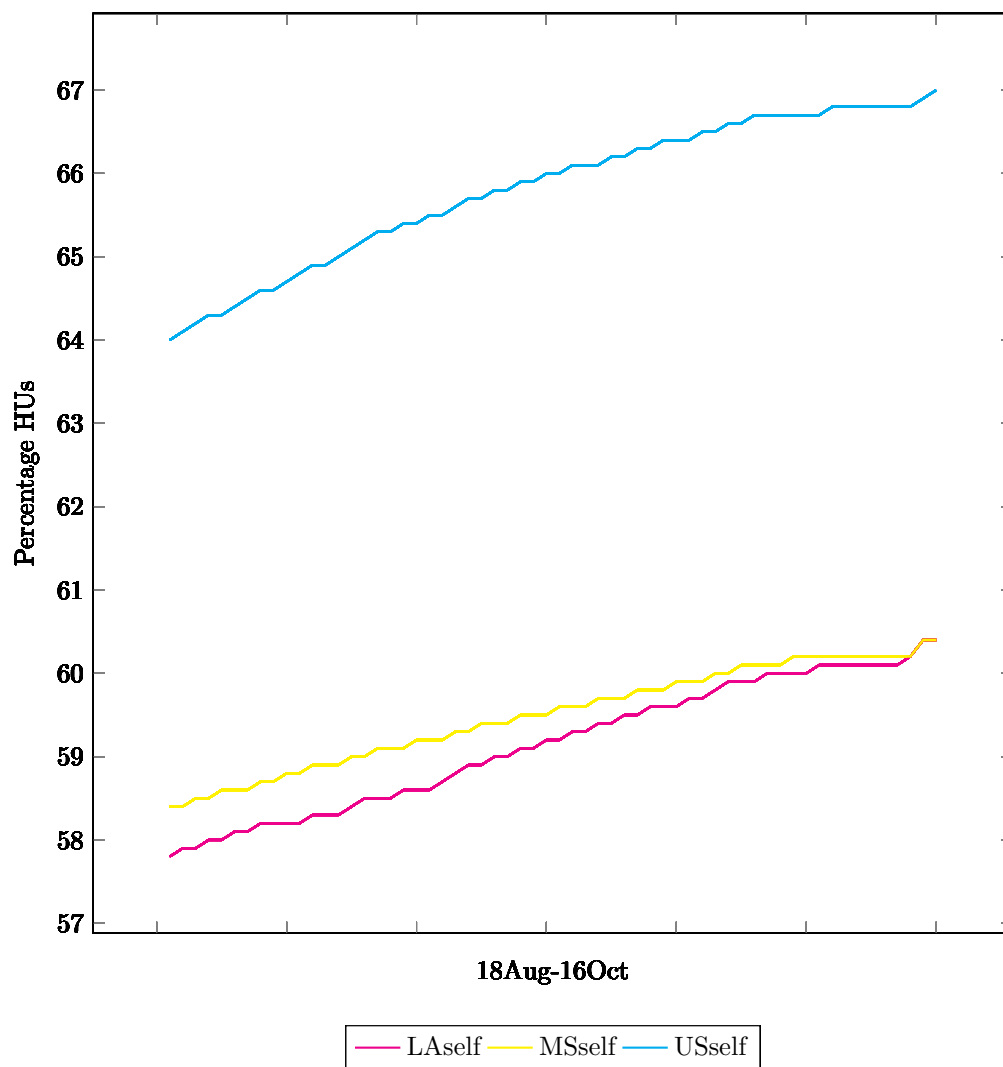


Figure 3: Self-response Rates by Date